



Kudawecha teacher case against Minister Hooyboer STILL ONGOING



Attorney Hendrik Croes confirms for affirms

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LAST month Kudawecha teacher Sugail "Suki" Croes started a case against Minister of Education Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar, demanding that the letter of disciplinary measures against Croes, dated March 20, 2015, be annulled and completely removed from the files. This case is still ongoing; however, it does not yet have a court date, says teacher Croes' attorney, Hendrik Croes.

The case was started because the procedure followed by the Minister and Director of the Public School Administration (DPS) Whitney Kock impugns the law regulating the jobs of public officials, known as the LMA, and was instead based on unfounded accusations, the attorney said.

According to Attorney Croes, among the questions that the plaintiff is bringing forward is how the Minister can sanction the teacher before starting an investigation. The plaintiff also wants to know why the Minister sent her back into a classroom if the Minister

claims teacher Croes is unprofessional and incompetent.

Teacher Croes, who was defended by her colleagues, students, parents of her students, all of Parliament, and was sent back to her classroom by the Minister under pressure of Parliament, cannot be unprofessional or incompetent, her attorney says.

Based on this, the Public Officials Judge was asked to annul the letter of March 20, and that it be considered as never having been written. At the same time, the plaintiff is demanding rectification for the unfounded accusations that were made against her. Attorney Croes foresees a successful case based on the many formal and material mistakes that were committed during handling of the situation.

Summary Proceedings

Meanwhile, the Minister of Education established a committee to investigate "the environment of the incident at elementary school Kudawecha" and

"the induced results related to said incident."

The day after teacher Croes found out about this committee, she filed a petition at the Public Officials Judge for a 'voorziening bij voorraad', which is comparable to a civil summary proceeding, asking the Judge to scrutinize whether this Ministerial decree has a basis or can be suspended while the civil suit is pending.

Teacher Croes was of the opinion that the Ministerial decree placed too much emphasis on questionable acts giving the impression that teacher Croes had acted in an unprofessional and unpedagogic way. She also questioned why the committee was placed in hands of people who are outside of the world of education in Aruba.

The summary case was handled in court on May 11, but the Judge denied teacher Croes' claim, and refused to suspend the committee's work, saying the committee was not specifically tasked to investigate teacher Croes, but the general environment instead, and

to provide recommendations to avoid a similar situation from happening in the future, the Attorney said.

This was assured by the attorney of Minister Hooyboer. Therefore the Judge did not find that the committee's work could in some way harm the teacher's position. This decision is preliminary, and should not bear any influence on the actual case related to the March 20 letter, Attorney Croes said.

The letter itself has already been suspended by the Minister before it could be brought before a Judge. The incident at the Kudawecha elementary school was submitted to the Judge. Now the defense of the Minister will be submitted before the Judge can set a court date.

Teacher Croes is again teaching at Kudawecha just as she has always done, says her attorney, and she is deeply grateful to everyone who showed solidarity with her during this situation.



MINISTER of Education Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar says the Government is in the final stages of approving additional loans for Arubian students at universities in Curacao. The students have been dealing with repeated college fee raises over the past couple of months and had appealed to the Government for its assistance. The University of Curacao (UoC) apparently made the decision and subsequent publication of the fee raise rather late, making it difficult for the Department of Education to anticipate and plan for the changes.

The students therefore were in a financial predicament. After they approached the Government, Minister Hooyboer was able to allocate funds that were sent from the Netherlands and are meant for scholarships to be used towards scholarships to cover the additional costs for these students. Each Arubian student that receives the so called Aruba Lening, Aruba Loans, to study in Curacao will receive an additional Afl 2000 this year in the form of a scholarship. This is double the amount with which UoC has raised its fees (Naf 1000), but

the Minister felt it was necessary to provide these students with more funding for any incidental costs they may have.

The scholarships are currently being processed, and the Minister hopes for a "positive result", with the funds transferred unto the students' bank accounts as soon as possible. For the upcoming academic year, the Minister is working on additional funds that will increase the amounts students can receive in loans, and be able to provide a structural solution for students at Curacao universities. This is meant to prevent that students find themselves in another tense financial situation, and can instead focus on their studies.

The UoC is apparently also increasing their fees again in the coming academic year, the Ministry of Education informed. The Arubian students studying in Curacao and the region have a high priority for Minister Hooyboer, the Ministry of Education informed. The leader believes these students must be facilitated in their needs so they can be successful in their studies.

Minister Bermudez says,

Now begins the actual work

NOW that the Budget 2015 is in its final stages of being formalized and ratified with the signature of the Governor, the work of maintaining, monitoring and keeping a constant eye on the execution of the budget will begin, says Finance Minister Angel Bermudez. The ratified budget was delivered back to the Minister on Tuesday.

"Now we will be working on the most interesting part to all of us, which is the execution of the budget and making sure that by the end of the year we are indeed able to reach the goal of a deficit that does not go over the 3.7 percent," Bermudez said.

Bermudez says the entire procedure in terms of the budget approval has been reformed this time, where it was done in collaboration with the Netherlands.

Now, the budget law cannot be placed somewhere in a drawer, but must instead be used to "constantly make sure that you remain in the framework of the budget," the Minister said. Along with this reform, he says, another reform that is on the way is in the tax system. However, Minister Bermudez emphasizes the need to continue finding ways to cut costs, and maintain the level of income. The planned budget is supposed to maintain a 3.7 percent deficit, but with last week's amendment a 3.4 percent deficit can be accomplished. The agreement with the Dutch Government, however, remains 3.7 percent, Bermudez said.

Bermudez hopes we can all leave the past behind us, and focus instead on the current challenge ahead of maintaining the current budget according to plans.



TripAdvisor welcomes Bucuti
& Tara Beach Resorts to

EXCELLENCE Hall of Fame

THE world's largest travel site, TripAdvisor, has welcomed Aruba's Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts to their Certificate of Excellence Hall of Fame. This exclusive endowment is granted only to businesses that have won the Certificate of Excellence for five years in a row. TripAdvisor's Certificate of Excellence can only be earned by consistently receiving outstanding reviews on the popular travel site.

"We are honored to receive such a distinction that stems directly from the positive experiences of our past guests," said Bucuti's owner Ewald Biemans. "Recognition of this kind is a direct result of the dedication of our entire top-notch team who are all committed to providing superior service to all of our guests. It has been a pleasure serving our guests throughout the years and we are thankful for their kind reviews and feedback that have ultimately led us to providing an exceptional and relaxing retreat."

For more information about Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts, please visit: bucuti.com.



After 20 years of preparation,

Finally the Ombudsman law is **READY** to be introduced

ON Tuesday President of Parliament Marisol Lopez-Tromp presented the new Ombudsman law, which is ready to be presented in Parliament for ratification. The law covers the introduction for both an ombudsman and a child ombudsman. Along with the ratification of the law, Lopez-Tromp said, the Government will provide funding to make sure the law can actually be executed.

The law will provide for the establishment of an Ombudsman Institute where private citizens can voice their complaints against public officials or government agencies.

In the Netherlands there are also ombudsmen and child ombudsmen. The committee of the Parliament that was working on the law held a meeting in Curacao to see how the ombudsman office functions there, and gain a better idea of how this office could work in Aruba.

The project will need to become a office with several groups with expertise in various areas, Lopez-Tromp said.

This important law has been in preparation for 20 years already, the President of Parliament said, but it never saw the light of day. Now all the articles of the law have been studied to make sure they fit for the situation on Aruba, and is expected to pass soon.



First Restaurant WEEK to be initiated in September

IN September, locals and visitors alike will be able to enjoy two weeks of all that Aruba has to offer in locally grown produce at restaurants that will be participating in the Aruba Tourism Authority's (ATA) first ever Eat Local Aruba Restaurant Week. From September 28 until October

9 of this year, this new event will provide all food and wine connoisseurs, and all who like good food the opportunity to explore all that Aruba's culinary world has to offer.

Participating restaurants will offer special menus at prices ranging from US\$ 15 to US\$ 40. Visitors do not need a ticket, but can just show up at

participating restaurants during the Eat Local week and try the special menu. Reservations are recommended.

The ATA introduced this initiative as way to showcase the wide diversity in Aruba's culinary field, where locally grown produce will be the main feature and can be incorporated in restaurant menus, offering a wide variety of flavours to our visitors.

The Coast Guard DISCOVERS DRUGS during rescue mission



THE Rescue and Coordination Center (RCC) of the Dutch Caribbean Coast Guard responded to an emergency call from oil tanker New Paros who said it had seen a small capsized boat between Curacao and Bonaire.

There were also four shipwrecked individuals by the capsized boat. By request of the RCC the tanker took the individuals on board. Three of the rescued individuals were of Colombian nationality, while one was

of Dominican nationality.

Right away the Coast Guard sent out two Super Rigid-hulled inflatable boats (RHIB) from their Parera base. They found the capsized boat, and proceeded to tow it away.

In the towing-away process the Coast Guard found two bales of narcotics. The shipwrecked individuals were subsequently placed under arrest and taken to Parera. At Parera the suspects were turned over to the Department of

Organized Crime (DGC) of the Police. Later in the day the little boat was towed to Curacao by the Marine vessel Zr. Ms. Pelikaan van de Koninklijke Marine. The boat and

the narcotics were impounded and turned over to the Authorities. The case remains under investigation.

Minister Otmar Oduber meets with San Nicolas business owners



LAST week Minister of Tourism Otmar Oduber met with the San Nicolas Business Association (SNBA), the San Nicolas Bar Association, and several other business owners from the Eastern side of the island. During the meeting, O'Niel Caribbean Kitchen lead a brainstorming session and presented various plans for the process of turning San Nicolas into the second tourist capital and a cultural center on Aruba.

The participants received information on ongoing projects. The Minister emphasized that for the plans to work there must be a commitment from all the key players, as well as their proactive involvement, in attracting visitors to the Eastern side of the island. Oduber also listened to the many challenges the business owners face on a daily basis, while the focus remained on the ideas of these businessmen and how to best take advantage of these initiatives. Oil refinery Valero was once again brought to discussion. But all parties agreed that the current focus should be on transforming San Nicolas into the cultural capital of Aruba, instead of whether the refinery can be re-opened or not.

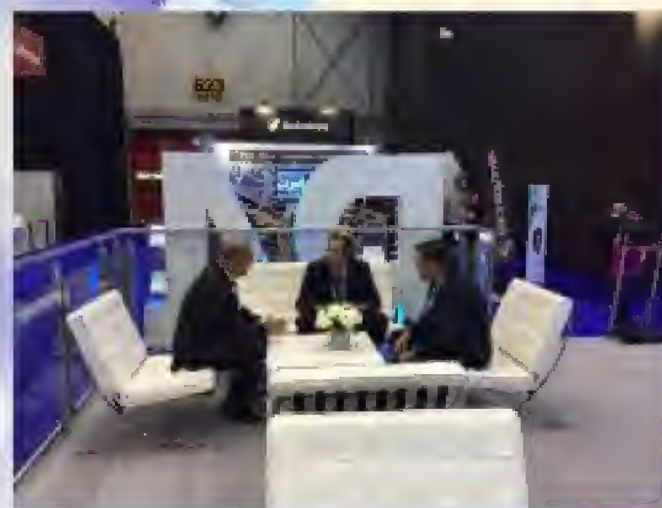
Aruba was WELL-REPRESENTED

at EBACE in Geneva

ARUBA representatives are currently attending the European Business Aviation Convention and Exhibition (EBACE) in Geneva, Switzerland, where many participants have expressed an interest in The Registry of Aruba, the Ministry of Tourism informs. Minister of Tourism Otmar Oduber, is attending the convention together with The Registry of Aruba, and other experts in the field of aviation, and said that the island was being well-represented at EBACE.

EBACE is the Europe's biggest aviation event, which is now in its 15th year. EBACE is considered the leading aviation trade show, education and networking event. Companies such as Boeing, Airbus, and Gulfstream are all present at this event.

According to the Minister, Aruba's booth has been well-visited and receiving much attention, with many expressing an interest in signing up with the Registry of Aruba.



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Fraction Leader Evelyn Wever-Croes informs

Integrity to be discussed AGAIN

in next week's Inter Parliamentary meetings in the Netherlands

Next week the Inter Parliamentary meetings of the Parliaments of Aruba, Curacao, St. Maarten and the Netherlands will take place in Den Haag, and among the points of discussion will be integrity, as well as internal affairs. The Parliaments will also be discussing education, energy, health, and youth welfare. MEP plans to present their point of view on various topics importance during these meetings.

Law regulating political party financing
The topic of integrity will be discussed

again, says Leader of the Yellow Fraction Evelyn Wever-Croes. Wever-Croes says that while other countries in the Kingdom have laws to guarantee integrity in the government, Aruba is the only one that does not have these laws. For years, MEP has been advocating for the introduction of laws that regulate the financing of political parties, Wever-Croes said. MEP suspects the participation of individuals involved in crime in the financing of certain parties, who later on demand favors from the parties they helped finance, once they are in the Government. According to Wever-Croes, the Eman Government

has been promising the Netherlands introduction of these laws for the past five years, but nothing has happened.

Screening of Ministers

MEP also believes there should be a better way to screen politicians. According to them, if the same screening procedures that are applied in the Netherlands were applied in Aruba, many of the current Cabinet members would not be there today. The fact is, says MEP, that the Governor is not playing a crucial part in the screening of the Ministers, and this must change.

Code of Conduct

The MEP party also demands the

introduction of a Code of Conduct for Ministers and Parliament Members, avoiding any impression that Ministers can repay political favors to campaign financiers. The party refers to scandals such as the "Bushiri-gate, Strawberry-gate, and the Insure-to-Study" cases that have taken place recently, among others.

Ombudsman

The MEP says that the Ombudsman law must also be introduced urgently, saying there is a need for a defender of the people. The MEP also believes there should be protection under the law for whistleblowers in cases of corruption in the Government.

CONCACAF Women's Football Day

TOGETHER with IBISA, the Aruba Voetbal Bond (AVB), Aruba Football Federation, is organizing a Women's tournament of five-player teams on Saturday, May 23, 2015. This is an initiative of the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF). The tournament will be held at the Sport Complex Franklyn Bareño, and is designed to promote the members of the CONCACAF to come together and celebrate the Annual Day of Women's Football. Women of all ages are encouraged to participate. This initiative of the CONCACAF hopes

to reach the following objectives: to generate more information on women's football worldwide, to promote and encourage women's football, and to unite all member associations in a memorable day in women's football. President of the AVB Richard Dijkhoff and Director of IBISA Monique van Embden will speak at this occasion, which is scheduled to start at 11:00 a.m. Registration will start at 9:00 a.m. For more information, please visit the AVB website at www.avbaruba.aw or the IBISA website at www.ibisaruba.org. Both organizations can also be found on Facebook.



Women's
Football Day
ta un dia pa damas
di tur edad cu kier
pratica futbol.

Markets are jumpy over coming 'leap second'

Adjustment for Earth's rotation worries exchanges and financial firms

(MARKET WATCH) - Wall Street's worry: Y2K's distant cousin, the leap second.

Traders and exchange officials are prepping for the latest incidence when a seemingly innocuous time change could potentially cause havoc if computer systems aren't made ready.

In this case, it is the leap second, an event that happens every few years when the standard time around the world is adjusted by one second to account for a slight mismatch between clocks and the Earth's rotation.

With lightning-quick trading tied to computers now the norm in markets, the leap second has regulators, exchanges and traders worrying about potential pitfalls like it's 1999.

"These guys are agonizing over it," said Steve Allen, a programmer-analyst at the University of California's Lick Observatory. "It is definitely a hassle."

This year, the leap second will be added on June 30, right before 8 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, or midnight Coordinated Universal Time/Greenwich Mean Time, when after-hours markets are usually still open for trading in the U.S. and some major Asian markets are just starting up.

Potentially complicating matters, exchanges globally are approaching the extra time differently, with Asian markets largely expecting to trade as planned, while U.S. exchanges make moves to curtail trading around the leap second.

SCIENTISTS ADDING 'LEAP SECOND' TO WORLD CLOCK THIS JUNE 30

(TECH TIMES) - Officials from the International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems (IERS) have announced that an additional second will be implemented on June 30 to reflect an inconsistency between the atomic clock and the rotation of the Earth.

The agency said the extra second, or leap second, is needed because the Earth has slowed in its rotation, making the adjustment in time necessary. Leap seconds are often added during the months of June or December. According to the IERS, there have been 25 cases since 1972 where a leap second was added.

The leap second this year will be added once the world clock reaches midnight universal time. This change will take effect at 8 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) for people living in the United States.

Clocks from all over the world synchronized to the standard civil time will show the additional second as ":60."

The planned implementation of the leap second has caused concern among different Internet companies because some computer programs are not designed to accommodate the additional second. These companies fear that the change might potentially create problems with their systems.

In order to avoid issues with the leap second, Amazon Web Services said it will launch "alternative solutions." The company plans to adjust its AWS clocks for a short period, which would reflect a different time compared to the standard civil time.

In 2012, the IERS implemented a leap second, which caused problems for a number of computer software. Several websites, such as LinkedIn, Yelp, StumbleUpon and Reddit, were brought down because they were not able to handle the change. Qantas Airways' computer system was shut down for hours, leaving airline employees manually checking in passengers.

Problems with the additional second occur because most computer systems operate based on a

program called Unix. This software was developed in 1970, two years before leap seconds were created.

Computers synchronize their time according to the IERS' network to make sure they are updated. When leap seconds are added, however, the IERS network informs computers that the last minute of the day will have 61 seconds. This confuses the programming of computers based on Unix.

To fix this issue, Google has developed safety measures after several of its systems were affected by the leap second added in 2005.

The company's "workarounds" involve adding a couple of milliseconds to the clocks of its servers, enough to handle the additional second.



The pastor, who is married with five children, had shared photos on Grindr



(TIME) - A Lutheran pastor in Michigan resigned recently after being caught sending messages on a mobile gay dating app, according to report on the local news site M Live. The pastor, Rev. Matthew Makela from Midland, is married with five children and has spoken of being gay as a "sinful temptation."

In posts on the dating and hookup app Grindr, Makela said he was looking to "mess around" with a guy and sent shirtless photos. Screenshots of the conversation with an unidentified user found their way to the gay news site Queerty.

A letter on the website of St. John's Lutheran Church, where Makela worked, acknowledged Makela's resignation and asked members of the congregation not to pay attention to discussions of Makela on social media or on the news.

"This changes nothing. Matt is still forgiven and he is still loved, and we will do what we can to stand by him and the family as they face this spiteful attack of shame," the letter said. "God is bigger than this and will see us through."

Multiple tornadoes reported as severe weather hits Texas, Oklahoma



(FOX NEWS) - Multiple tornadoes touched down late Tuesday as a series of storms caused damage and flooding in parts of north Texas and southern Oklahoma, with more severe weather expected Wednesday.

One tornado touched down in Mineral Wells, Texas, about 80 miles west of Dallas, at approximately 7 p.m. local time Tuesday, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported. There were no immediate reports of injuries, but a police dispatcher told the paper that the twister had caused the collapse of an abandoned bank building, damaged two churches, and torn the roof off a government building.

A second tornado was reported to have passed through the town at approximately 7:45 p.m. local time, but that was not immediately confirmed by the National Weather Service. In Runaway Bay and Booneville, about 50 miles northwest of Fort Worth, storm spotters reported at least one tornado inflicting heavy damage to houses and apartment buildings. The roofs of two apartment buildings in Runaway Bay were either torn off or collapsed, Wise County Sheriff David Walker told Fox 4.

There were no immediate reports of injuries from either storm, the Associated Press reported.

In Bridgeport, game wardens used a boat to rescue about a dozen residents after a mobile home community flooded. "We've waded in waist-deep water tonight rescuing elderly residents trapped by high water," Bridgeport police said, according to Fox 4.

Forecaster Matt Stalley told The Associated Press that Decatur

had 5.1 inches of rain, with Bridgeport getting 4.8 inches.

Earlier Tuesday, a tornado touched town in the town of Giddings, Texas, approximately 55 miles east of Austin. The city's emergency manager told the Star-Telegram that the storm damaged some farm outbuildings and the roof of a Ramada Inn. One man who was a guest at the hotel was reported injured when debris blew in through a window and struck him in the head. He was taken to a hospital in San Marcos for treatment of head lacerations.

Storm systems across the southern Plains had brought heavy rain and flooding to the region over most of the day Tuesday. In West Texas, San Angelo Regional Airport was closed after the terminal became flooded. In the city of Abilene, firefighters blamed lightning for a fire that destroyed a home in that city. In Oklahoma, flooding was reported in the university town of Norman, and forecasters called for up to eight-and-a-half inches of rain for the south-central part of the state.

Earlier Tuesday, authorities reported multiple small tornadoes had touched down near the town of Purcell in southern Oklahoma. Other tornadoes were reported in three counties, though no significant damage or injuries were reported. On Wednesday, a low pressure system is expected to collide with warm air from the Gulf of Mexico, resulting in rain and thunderstorms over the southern Plains and parts of the Deep South, The Associated Press reports.

Forecasters told the AP that these storms are capable of producing large hail, dangerous winds and isolated tornadoes. Heavy rain from the storms will also bring threats of flash flooding to central Texas.

Bin Laden bent on spectacular US attack until the end: files

(AFP) - WASHINGTON: Hunkered down in his Pakistani compound, Osama bin Laden pleaded with his followers to stay focused on attacking the US instead of being dragged into Muslim infighting.

Documents declassified today shed new light on the mindset of al-Qaeda's founder, his debates over tactics, his anxiety over Western spying and his fixation with the group's media image.

"The focus should be on killing and fighting the American people and their representatives,"

Bin Laden wrote in one of the newly revealed documents.

The letter was among thousands of files found by US Navy SEALs on May 2, 2011 when they descended on Bin Laden's hideout in the garrison town of Abbottabad and shot him dead.

US intelligence agencies have now declassified more than 100 of these documents taken from Bin Laden's archive, after lawmakers ordered the move and critics accused the CIA of withholding material.

AFP was given exclusive access to the documents in advance of their release.

Jeff Anchukaitis, spokesman for the US Director of National Intelligence's office, said the release of "a sizeable tranche of documents recovered during the raid" was in keeping with President Barack Obama's call for "increased transparency."

It was also in accordance with a law obliging the spy agencies to review all the Bin Laden materials for possible release, he said.

The documents are CIA translations of the originals in English, and AFP had no way to independently verify the materials or the accuracy of the translation.

The release came shortly after US journalist Seymour Hersh alleged that Washington's official account of the hunt for Bin Laden and the raid that led to his death was a lie.

But CIA spokesman Ryan Trapani said the declassification had been long planned and had not been intended as a response to Hersh's report.

From the strategic and theological discussions to the mundane details of domestic funding and security measures, the documents show the man behind 9/11 preoccupied with once again attacking the West in a spectacular fashion.

Mindful of drone strikes taking out senior leaders, Bin Laden frequently refers to security headaches and advises against communicating by email.



North Korea says it can miniaturize nuclear weapons

(CNN)North Korea said Wednesday that it has the ability to miniaturize nuclear weapons, a key step toward building nuclear missiles.

Analysts and U.S. officials have said previously that they suspected Kim Jong Un's regime was working toward accomplishing the technical feat, which is needed to fit a nuclear device on the tip of a ballistic missile.

U.S. expresses doubt

But on Wednesday, the official U.S. response was skepticism.

"Our assessment of North Korea's nuclear capabilities has not changed," National Security Council spokesman Patrick Ventrell said in a statement. "We do not think that they have that capacity."

"However, they are working on developing a number of long range missiles, including intercontinental ballistic missiles, that could eventually threaten our allies and the homeland," the U.S. spokesman added. "That is why the Administration is working to improve regional and homeland missile defenses and continuing to work with the other members of the six-party talks to bring North Korea back into compliance with its nonproliferation commitments." The six-party talks refer to nuclear disarmament efforts by the United States, North Korea, South Korea, China, Japan and Russia. But the North Korean assertion was unequivocal. "We have had the capability of miniaturizing nuclear warheads, as well as producing multiform weapons, for some time," the North Korean military said in a statement carried by the state-run Korean Central News Agency.

"We can also guarantee the accuracy not only of short-to-mid-range but also long-range rocket launches, for which we have had the technology for a long time," the statement said.

Claim echoes U.S. military assessments

Despite the U.S.' official skepticism, Pyongyang's announcement about miniaturization -- the first time it has publicly made such a claim -- tallies with some recent assessments from senior U.S. military officials.

U.S. Army Gen. Curtis Scaparrotti, the commander of U.S. forces in Korea, said in October that he thought North Korea was capable of miniaturizing a nuclear device.

And Adm. Bill Gortney, the commander of North American Aerospace Defense Command, told reporters last month that the U.S. military believed that Pyongyang could put a nuclear weapon on a road-mobile missile and "shoot it at the (U.S.) homeland."

Gortney added, though, that the United States doesn't think that the missile in question, the KN-08, has been tested. And he said he was confident U.S. defenses would be able to intercept any potential North Korean attack.

Analysts suspect North Korean nuclear advances

Gauging the progress of North Korea's nuclear weapons program is a tricky business. Kim's regime generally cloaks its efforts in secrecy and occasionally trumpets claims of advances through propaganda outlets, leaving the rest of the world to try to connect the dots.

Analysts have said that North Korea may well already be able to fit nuclear warheads on ground-launched missiles that can reach South Korea and Japan.

David Albright, a former U.N. weapons inspector, recently told CNN that Pyongyang could have 10 to 15 nuclear weapons at this point and that it could grow that amount by several weapons per year.

Fashioning a nuclear device small enough to fit on the tip of a ballistic missile is difficult. North Korea signaled its intent to achieve that goal at the time of its most recent nuclear test, in 2013. It described the device it tested then as "a smaller and lighter" bomb than the ones it detonated in 2006 and 2009. Albright said he thinks Pyongyang can miniaturize a warhead for shorter missiles, but not yet for intercontinental ballistic missiles, or ICBMs. "There's just too much testing they need to do, to make sure the re-entry vehicle -- in essence the missile -- is going to work," he explained. "Also, the warhead is going to have to survive in a much more rugged environment, so that requires further testing too."

"I don't think they're there yet."

Miniaturization one of several key steps

Miniaturizing a nuclear weapon is one key part of building a nuclear-armed intercontinental ballistic missile.

The nuclear device also needs to be tough enough to be able to withstand the flight on a ballistic missile, experts say, and be housed in a "reentry vehicle" that can endure the intense heat generated by coming back into Earth's atmosphere.

In a February post for the North Korea watching blog 38 North, arms control expert Jeffrey Lewis said he thought North Korea was probably able to carry out each of those three steps.

But big questions remain about the reliability and accuracy of any weapon the North Koreans might be able to put together, wrote Lewis, who is the director of the East Asia Nonproliferation Program at the

James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies. Adding to concerns, North Korea claimed this month that it had successfully tested a submarine-launched ballistic missile. A South Korean defense official said, though, that the North was believed to still be years away from having a fully operational submarine missile system.

Nuclear progress likely to undermine regional stability

The apparent progress of the North Korean regime's nuclear weapons program is threatening to upend the United States' strategic calculations in the region.

"Pyongyang's advances in mobile ICBM capabilities could end up undermining the state of stable deterrence that currently exists on the Korean Peninsula," Victor Cha, Korea chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, wrote in an opinion article for CNN last month. "Put simply, these capabilities could give North Korea confidence that it is immune from any U.S. counterstrikes."

North Korea has demanded that the United States recognize it as a nuclear power. But the United States has said that North Korea's commitment to denuclearization is the starting point for any negotiations between the two sides.

North Korea is the subject of a raft of U.N. Security Council sanctions because of its nuclear tests and long-range rocket launches.

But the international measures don't appear to have stopped Pyongyang from continuing to develop its weapons programs, which it says it needs as a deterrent to the threat it perceives from the United States.

"I think we have rapidly approached the point of no return over the past five years," Joel Wit, a visiting scholar at the U.S.-Korea Institute at Johns

Hopkins University, said this month.

"This program has gained a lot of momentum over the past few years, and not much has been done to stop it."



North Korea Submarine Missile Footage Isn't Real, U.S. Admiral Says

SEOUL SOUTH KOREA

- Photos showing a North Korean missile launched from a submarine were manipulated by state propagandists, a top U.S. military official said on Tuesday.

North Korea, heavily sanctioned by the United States and United Nations for its missile and

of building missile-equipped submarines.

On Wednesday, the North warned Washington not to challenge its sovereign right to boost military deterrence and boasted of its ability to miniaturize nuclear warheads, a claim it has made before and which has been widely



An image released by North Korea's Rodong Shinmun shows what Pyongyang claimed to be a ballistic missile being launched from a submarine in waters near the northeast coast of Sinpo on May 9.



An image obtained by Yonhap News Agency showing North Korean leader Kim Jong Un pointing at a ballistic missile his military claimed to have launched from underwater on May 9.

German aerospace engineers Markus Schiller and Robert Schmucker of Schmucker Technologie appeared to support Winnefeld's statement.

The Munich-based pair said photos of the launch were

"strongly modified," including reflections of the missile exhaust flame in the water which did not line up with the missile itself. North Korea, which regularly threatens to destroy the United States, had a track record of offering faked proof to claim significant advances in missile technology, Schiller and Schmucker said, such as poorly built mockups of missiles on display at military parades in 2012 and 2013.

A photo on state TV showed a missile high in the sky leaving a trail of white smoke, whereas other photos from state media showed no white smoke, suggesting the two photos were of different missiles with different propulsion systems, Schiller and Schmucker said.

nuclear tests, said on May 9 it had successfully conducted an underwater test-fire of a submarine-launched ballistic missile. If true, it would indicate progress in its pursuit

questioned by experts and never verified.

But Pyongyang is still "many years" from developing submarine-launched ballistic

missiles, U.S. Admiral James Winnefeld told an audience at the Centre for Strategic & International Studies in Washington on Tuesday.

"They have not gotten as far as

their clever video editors and spinmeisters would have us believe," said Winnefeld, who is vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Analysis seen by Reuters from

Source: NBCNews

Bullied kids have higher risk of adult obesity and heart disease

(REUTERS) LONDON – Victims of childhood bullying are more likely to be overweight or obese as adults and have a higher risk of developing heart disease, diabetes and other illnesses, according to a study by British psychiatrists.

Researchers found that just over a quarter of women who were occasionally or frequently bullied as children were obese at age 45, compared to 19 percent of those who had never been bullied. And both men and women who were bullied as children had higher levels of fat around their middle -- a known risk factor for heart disease.

"Bullying is bad for your physical health, whether you're a man or a woman," said Andrea Danese, who worked on the study at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience at King's College London.

Louise Arseneault, who led the research, said its findings should remind teachers, parents and carers to think about the victims, not just worry about how to stop the bullies. Bullying is characterized by repeated hurtful actions by other children, against which the victims find it difficult to defend themselves, she told reporters. Unfortunately, bullying was "part of growing up for many children", she said.

"We tend to neglect the victims and their suffering," she added. "(Yet) for some children, they will be marked for the rest of their lives."

Arseneault's findings, published on Wednesday in the journal *Psychological Medicine*,

come from the British National Child Development Study which has data on all children born in England, Scotland and Wales during one week in 1958.

It included 7,102 children whose parents gave information on their child's exposure to bullying at age 7 and 11. Some 28 percent had been bullied occasionally and 15 percent were bullied frequently. The children were then followed up at age 45, when measures of blood inflammation and obesity were recorded.

Besides obesity, the results showed that being bullied also led to higher levels of blood inflammation by the age 45.

Some 20 percent of those who were frequently bullied had high levels of a substance called C-reactive protein (CRP). High CRP raises heart disease risk by increasing atherosclerosis, where arteries get clogged up with fatty deposits.

Danese said the effects of childhood bullying on the risk of poor health in adulthood are relatively small compared to factors such as smoking, diet and exercise, but stressed that because obesity and bullying are both common, tackling them could have a significant health impact.



Steph Curry's 2-year-old daughter has sparked the dumbest sports controversy

(USA TODAY) - Hours after Riley Curry, adorable daughter of Steph Curry, stole the show at the NBA MVP's postgame press conference an incredibly strange controversy took over the internet.

A few writers, who apparently were worried about making their deadlines (though as former friend of For The Win Adi Joseph points out it was an early game), complained that kids shouldn't be allowed on the podium because it's a waste of time, stops their parents from answering tough questions, is a shield, etc etc. And maybe it is. Or maybe, after being on the road for half of the season, dads really just want to hang out with their kids.

Here at ForThe Win, it's something we celebrate — they're buzzy, cute moments that remind us that sports are supposed to be fun and there's more to athletes than just what they do on the court. In fact, it's something that's been going on for years — much to the delight of most of us. It's something that even the NBA happily markets via their own social channels.

Most sportswriters who spoke out on Twitter were in agreement: Riley was adorable, an amusing addition to what would have been a routine press conference where her dad — who is usually better at answering questions than many — probably wouldn't have given



Adi Joseph
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It's worth pointing out in this stupid Riley Curry "debate" that yesterday was the earliest Warriors weekday home game of the entire season.

10:46 AM - 20 May 2015

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incredible insight anyway. It's sort of hard to explain in words anything that happened in an NBA playoff game other than to say something about the team working together, which is what Curry said. As much of the stress of the

season is wearing on the players though, maybe it's just wearing on the people covering them as well.

Deadlines are increasingly frequent and competition is harder in this industry every

day. To have to push aside the fun moments might more be a statement on the industry of sports journalism than the actual issue of kids on the podium. But unless you're one of the 30 people in sports journalism who are reading

this, that's not what you care about right?

So let's stop debating about whether there should be a rule against this or not. And just live a little more in the spirit of Riley Curry.



FABREGAS' THREE-MATCH BAN REDUCED TO ONE FOLLOWING CHELSEA APPEAL

(FOX SPORTS) - Cesc Fabregas has had his three-match ban reduced to just one after Chelsea successfully argued the initial punishment was excessive.

The Spain midfielder was sent off in Monday's 3-0 defeat at West Brom after kicking the ball against Chris Brunt's head during a break in play. He will now only miss Sunday's final Barclays Premier League game against Sunderland, when champions Chelsea will lift the Barclays Premier League trophy.

A statement from Chelsea read: "The standard

sanction would have been a three-match suspension. "However, following an Independent Regulatory Commission hearing earlier today, the club's claim that a three-match suspension is excessive was successful.

"Fabregas will therefore now only miss our final game of the season against Sunderland on Sunday and will be available for selection from the start of the 2015/16 campaign."

Fabregas was dismissed in the first half of Chelsea's defeat at The Hawthorns after hitting Brunt on the head from 20 yards while referee Mike Jones

spoke to Gareth McAuley and Diego Costa after they grappled in the area.

A statement from the Football Association read: "A claim by Chelsea that the three-match suspension for Cesc Fabregas is excessive has been upheld by an Independent Regulatory Commission hearing. "Fabregas was dismissed for violent conduct during the West Bromwich Albion FC v Chelsea FC fixture on 18 May. The Regulatory Commission has reduced the Chelsea midfielder's suspension to one match, to be served with immediate effect."

Pro gamer earning six figures

explains why he chose to stop playing sports so he could focus on video games

WITH its 12-hour practice days and unusual living situations, pro gaming requires a certain personality. Christian "TWDominate" Rivera, a 24-year-old player on Team Liquid's pro League of Legends team, is a prime example.

"Winning is above being happy in my mind," Rivera told Business Insider in a recent interview.

Rivera has been obsessed with video games since he was a young child, starting with Super Nintendo games like Donkey Kong and Super Mario and progressing to real-time-strategy games like Warcraft III. Rivera says that, as a kid, he viewed video games as a means to "progress," not as an outlet for "screwing around."

Rivera's competitive spirit wasn't

limited to video games. Through most of his youth, he was heavily involved in traditional sports such as tennis and baseball. He was dedicated and skilled at both, competing in the United States Tennis Association and the Richard Dowling league in tennis and playing in regional Florida leagues for baseball. Despite his skill and competitive nature, Rivera had a moment early on that convinced him to put all of his effort into video games over traditional sports.

Here's what Rivera said:

In sports, I was always good, but good for my region or my team. When I brought my skills to the national level, there were kids that were better. They



were just more athletic.

I remember playing football in fifth grade and seeing kids that were built like men. They were six feet tall. I was 5'5" and scrawny. I realized that sports weren't on an even playing field. Video games were ...

Sports were a risk. I didn't know how tall I would be. I didn't know how athletic I would be. I didn't know what my build would be. With video games, it's all mental. If you are good enough and you practice hard enough, you can

get to the top."

Pro gaming didn't catch on until Rivera was 19. He was ready when it did. He dropped out of the University of Miami his senior year and has been playing in the League of Legends pro league ever since. Now, he plays for Team Liquid, a pro team in the League of Legends Championship series, earning between \$80,000 and \$100,000 in salary, endorsements, and income from streaming on Twitch.

Source: Business Insider